

From: Russ Tuck
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I remember happily paying Netscape a \$30-40/year subscription fee for the use of their latest "Communicator" software. Netscape made several regular releases of their software each year, with major new features and improvements in each one. Then Microsoft decided to "cut off their air supply" by developing (at great expense) and giving away similar "knock-off" software.

Netscape was eventually forced to give their end-user software away, and as a result could no longer afford to invest in improving and extending it. Releases became infrequent, and significant new features quite rare. Once Netscape quit innovating in this area, Microsoft mostly quit, too. So several years later, I still prefer Netscape's software. I use it throughout each day for email and web browsing. But I miss the innovative new features and improved reliability Netscape would have added in the intervening years if they had been able to continue selling their software.

I used Netscape Calendar to keep track of my schedule and meetings. But now I'm forced to use Outlook for my calendar, because Netscape didn't have the resources to continue supporting and enhancing their calendar program. So I have to manually manage the sharing of my email between Netscape and Outlook (because the Outlook calendar requires Outlook email).

I had hoped that Netscape's Composer for editing HTML would become my regular text editor. By storing files in HTML, they would have been exchangeable with people using all different kinds of software. But development stalled, and Composer never became the alternative to MS Word (and its proprietary file format) that I'd hoped for.

Microsoft's illegal behavior has cost me 100s of hours (worth many \$1000s) in lost productivity by depriving me of continued software improvements from Netscape.

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